

Amendment After Allowance under 37 CFR 1.312
Date filed **January 28, 2009**
U.S. Patent Application Serial No. **10/730,013**

REMARKS

This is an Amendment after Notice of Allowance, pursuant to 37 CFR 1.312 and MPEP 714.16. On **December 1, 2008**, a Notice of Allowance was mailed for the above-captioned patent application. The claims have been amended herein to add new claims 14-19. Applicant submits that no new matter is added by this amendment.

In accordance with MPEP 714.16, Applicant submits that the amendments are needed for proper disclosure of the invention, and will require no substantial amount of additional work on the part of the Office. Applicants specifically addresses points (A) to (D) in MPEP 714.16, as follows:

(A) Why the amendment is needed. This amendment is needed to more properly define the scope of the invention.

(B) Why the proposed new claims require no additional search and/or examination. No additional search and/or examination are required because added claims 14-19 are dependent from allowed claims, and the limitations added in claims 14-19 appear in the allowed claims 1-13, and therefore the added limitations in the new claims have already been examined.

(C) Why the claims are patentable. New claims 14 is dependent from allowed claim 1; new claims 15-18 are dependent from allowed claim 2; and new claim 19 is dependent from allowed claim 7. The new claims only add additional limitations to the allowed claims and, as noted above, the added limitations have already been examined where they appear in allowed claims 1-13.

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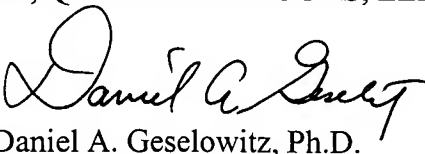
(D) Why they were not presented earlier. The new claims are added because, for example, claim 2 was originally a dependent claim. However, it became an independent claim in a course of prosecution. Therefore, it became necessary to create a dependency with other dependent claims. In addition, the applicant would like to have the corresponding dependent claims which are dependent from claim 7.

If for any reason, the Examiner has any questions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicants undersigned agent at the indicated telephone number to arrange for a telephone conference in order to help expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not timely filed, the applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for this extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 01-2340, along with any other additional fees which may be required with respect to this paper.

Respectfully submitted,

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